

CITYLIT STUDIO IX: Writers on Craft, Creativity & Community

SPECIAL EDITION

Publishing with Yahdon Israel, Krishan Trotman, & Dawn Raffel in partnership with Lyric Baltimore

October 13, 2024
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
The Lyric – Rehearsal Hall

140 W Mount Royal Avenue | Baltimore, MD 21202

Three publishing industry professional creatives **KRISHAN TROTMAN** (Vice President and publisher of Legacy Lit, an imprint at Hachette Book Group NY), **YAHDON ISRAEL** (Senior editor at Simon Schuster and founder of Literaryswag), and independent developmental editor, author, and former senior-level magazine editor **DAWN RAFFEL** join forces to bring the truth about publishing to the Baltimore literary community. For emerging and established authors who want to level up their publishing game. An intense information session designed to set the record straight about how to show up like a boss, submit to the best of them, and what to expect when you get there. Not for the faint of heart but most definitely for those in the business of submitting their work in the best of ways. Engage in frank conversations with a few of the industry's finest. Informal but informative.

Registration requested for updates but not required. **FREE TO ALL.**

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KRISHAN TROTMAN

Vice President, Publisher, LEGACY LIT - an imprint of HACHETTE BOOK GROUP

Krishan Trotman is the co-author of the *Queens of the Resistance* series and Vice President and Publisher of Legacy Lit, an imprint at Hachette Book Group in New York. She was recently celebrated in the New York Times and Essence magazine as one of the few African American publishing executives. New York magazine called her as one of Publishing's New Power Club, and she's been featured in Salon, Shondaland, Cheddar TV, MSN, and more. She has committed over fifteen years to publishing books by and about multicultural voices and social justice. Throughout her career, she has proudly worked with leaders and trailblazers on this frontier such as John Lewis, Stephanie Land, Malcolm Nance, Zerlina Maxwell, Ibtihaj Muhammad, Al Roker, Ed Gordon, Lindy West, Debra Lee, Deesha Dyer, and other dynamic celebrity and bestselling authors. She is the self-described Beyoncé of Books, and mom to her son Bleu.

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YAHDON ISRAEL

Senior Editor, SIMON & SCHUSTER PUBLISHERS

Yahdon is a Senior Editor at Simon Schuster and founder of **Literaryswag**, a cultural movement that intersects literature and fashion to make books accessible. He has written for The New Inquiry, LitHub, Poets and Writers, Vanity Fair, and The Atlantic. He teaches Creative Writing at the MFA Program at City College and previously served on the Board of the National Book Critics Circle. Yahdon has a passion for promoting literacy and connecting readers with books. He brings an entrepreneurial spirit to these pursuits as the founder of a popular book club, host of a literary podcast, creative writing teacher, event producer, magazine editor, and writer, as well as his work in support of several prestigious literary awards. The Literaryswag Book Club, a Brooklyn-based subscription service, boasts hundreds of members, monthly meetings (every last Wednesday of the month), and a robust social media presence. The podcast Lit, a weekly interview series hosted by Yahdon features writers talking about books and culture. Yahdon has served as a preliminary reader for both the Whiting Award and the Aspen Words Literary Award and has worked extensively with the board of the National Book Critics Circle, including helping to produce the NBCC Awards ceremony. At Simon & Schuster, Yahdon acquires both fiction and nonfiction. He is the acquiring editor of Temple Folk, a groundbreaking debut collection portraying the lived experiences of Black Muslims grappling with faith, family, and freedom in America by Aaliyah Bilal.

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DAWN RAFFEL

Independent Developmental Editor, Teacher, Mentor

Dawn Raffel is an independent developmental editor, teacher, and mentor to emerging writers. Prior to going independent, she served for many years as a senior-level magazine editor, including at O, The Oprah Magazine, which she helped launch. She is the author of six critically acclaimed books (fiction and nonfiction), including *The Strange Case of Dr. Couney: How a Mysterious European Showman Saved Thousands of American Babies*, which won a Christopher Award for books that promote the highest values of the human spirit. Her latest, *Boundless as the Sky*, is literary fiction inspired in part by Italo Calvino's classic *Invisible Cities* and by the 1933 Chicago World's Fair, as the threat of fascism loomed. The Chicago Tribune called it "marvelous and arresting." She teaches at the Center for Fiction and International Literary Seminars, most recently in Kenya.

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